



CIVIL AIR PATROL

... performing missions for America

... to serve America by developing our nation's youth; performing local, state and national missions; and informing our citizens about the importance of aerospace education.

Civil Air Patrol was founded in December 1941, one week before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, by more than 150,000 citizens who were concerned about the defense of America's coastline. Under the jurisdiction of the Army Air Forces, CAP pilots flew more than one-half million hours, were credited with sinking two enemy submarines and rescued hundreds of crash survivors during World War II. On July 1, 1946, President Truman established CAP as a federally chartered benevolent civilian corporation, and Congress passed Public Law 557 on May 26, 1948, making CAP the auxiliary of the new U.S. Air Force. CAP was charged with three primary missions: aerospace education, cadet programs and emergency services.

THE CORPORATION

- Classified as a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation
- Operates as the all-volunteer civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force
- Includes eight geographic regions consisting of 52 wings (each of the 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia)
- Includes approximately 1,500 units nationwide
- Currently has about 57,000 members
- Operates one of the largest fleets of single-engine piston aircraft in the world, with 550 currently in the fleet
- Flies, through volunteer members, more than 120,000 hours each year
- Maintains fleet of 1,000 emergency services vehicles for training and mission support
- Provides counseling and ministry to CAP cadets and senior members by almost 900 chaplain service personnel
- Supports members with more than 150 corporate staff at the CAP National Headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

AEROSPACE EDUCATION

- Educates the membership and the community
- Provides support for more than 100 workshops at colleges nationwide each year
- Develops, publishes and distributes aerospace education curricula for classroom grades K through college
- Sponsors premier aerospace education conference each year, the National Conference on Aviation and Space Education (NCASE)
- Provides classroom materials, teacher training and other educational aids at no cost to America's teachers and homeschoolers
- Serves as aerospace resource center for education through CAP's Web site at www.cap.gov

CADET PROGRAMS

- Includes about 25,000 members ages 12 - 21
- Encompasses multi-step program that includes aviation and aerospace education
- Offers orientation flights in powered and glider aircraft, and flight training scholarships
- Provides about 10 percent of each year's new classes entering military service academies
- Provides enlistment in Air Force at higher pay grade for cadets who have earned the Gen. Billy Mitchell Award
- Provides activities and competition for cadets at local, state, regional and national levels
- Provides an International Air Cadet Exchange program
- Provides college scholarships in several disciplines

EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Conducts 95 percent of all inland search and rescue in the U.S., as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and other agencies
- Coordinates Air Force-assigned missions through the CAP National Operations Center at Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- Performs aerial reconnaissance for homeland security
- Saves an average of 100 lives per year
- Provides disaster-relief support to local, state and national disaster relief organizations
- Transports time-sensitive medical materials, blood products and body tissues
- Provides damage assessment, light transport and communications support, and low-altitude route surveys for the U.S. Air Force
- Assists federal agencies in the war on drugs
- Conducts orientation flights for Air Force ROTC students
- Maintains the most extensive communications network in the nation

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